

COMMENTS CONCERNING RAISED BILL NO. 784
AN ACT CONCERNING ROAMING ANIMALS
By Richard Mellin

Statement of Purpose

To allow animal control officers to impound dogs, whose presence on any public or condominium/PUD property poses a threat to public or condominium or PUD residents' safety or other animals.

Richard Mellin

I am a Community Association Manager in the greater Danbury area. Our firm manages large condominiums with over a thousand residents. I am also the Chairperson for the Manager's Council of CAI-CT that is comprised of many of Connecticut's Community Association Managers

There is an urgent need to introduce and pass a bill that allows an animal control officer to go onto a condominium or PUD property (which is perceived as private property) to catch roaming dogs.

This Act could also be easily added to the language of H. B. 784 after "highway or public" the words "condominium or PUD property." This request is intended to clarify the current law that protects (in the public sector) the safety of individuals from roaming dogs as well as protects roaming dogs (that could be injured or killed by a vehicle or another animal).

Just as roaming dogs are a nuisance and annoyance in the public domain, they are also a nuisance and annoyance in the private domain of condominiums and PUDS. Such a bill would allow animal control officers to address problems with roaming dogs on condominiums and PUD's properties.

Currently, animal control officers view condominiums and PUDs to be private property, much like single family homes, rather than as a semi-government organization owned by a non-stock corporation that functions in many ways like our local towns and cities. However, condominiums and PUDs do not have the same authority, ability or resources to enforce their own "no roaming dog" rules and regulations.

In these tough economic and worrisome times, the many thousands of CT citizens who live in the 4,000+ condominium communities deserve the same legislation provided the general public to protect them from the problems of roaming dogs in their communities. There is no reason why passing such a bill would not be a win-win for everyone with no cost or imposition to either the public or private sectors.

Thank you for your attention to this request.

If you would like more information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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